

REMARKS

The above amendment and these remarks are responsive to the Office Action of Daniel J. Chung mailed 12 Mar 2004.

Claims 1-30 are in the case, with claims 20 and 22-30 allowed and claims 6-13 objected to. Claims 1-5, 14-19 and 21 have been rejected.

35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 1-5, 14-19 and 21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Pendred (U.S. Patent 3,600,513) in view of Snead et al. (U.S. Patent 6,333,741).

Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 2, 14-19, and 21 to recite specific steps for filling a polygon with a minimum number of rectangles.

Neither Pendred nor Snead teach the claimed technique for processing border polygons or stripes, and these claims

distinguish Pendred and Snead substantially as outlined by the Examiner at page 5 of the Office Action.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 20 and 22-30 have been allowed.

Claims 6-13 have been objected to as depending from an rejected base claim.

Applicants submitted in their previous response claims 22-25 corresponding to claims 8-10 and 13, respectively, with claim 22 redrawn in independent format incorporating the limitations of the base and intervening claims, and claims 23-25 depending from claim 22.

Applicants also previously submitted claims 26-30, with claim 26 corresponding to claim 6 and its parent claims 2 and 3; claim 27 corresponding to claim 7; and claims 28-30 corresponding to claims 11-13, respectively.

Claim 6 has been canceled, and claims 7-13 now depend from claim 2 which has been amended to recite specific steps for filling a polygon not taught by the Pendred or Snead references, substantially as outlined by the Examiner at page 5 of the Office Action.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Applicants urge that the above amendments be entered and the case passed to issue with claims 1-30.

The Application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action by the Examiner is urged. Should differences remain, however, which do not place one/more of the remaining claims in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to phone the undersigned at the number provided below for the purpose of providing constructive assistance and suggestions in accordance with M.P.E.P. Sections 707.02(j) and 707.03 in order that allowable claims can be presented, thereby placing the Application in

condition for allowance without further proceedings being necessary.

Sincerely,

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